

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
SOUTHERN DIVISION**

CHRISTOPHER ALLEN COATES,)
)
Petitioner,)
v.) Civil Action
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,) No. 11-3384-CV-S-GAF-H
)
Respondent.)

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Petitioner, an inmate confined in the United States Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, petitions this Court for a writ of habeas corpus in which he appears to challenge his conviction and sentence. The petition has been referred to the undersigned for preliminary review under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b). Because this Court lacks jurisdiction of petitioner's claims, it will be recommended that he be denied leave to proceed in forma pauperis.

As grounds for relief in habeas corpus, petitioner contends that his sentence is unreasonable, that he had ineffective assistance of counsel, and that the appropriate guidelines were not used in his case.

The law is clear that a petitioner who seeks to attack the validity of a federal sentence must do so in the sentencing court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255, unless it appears that the motion is inadequate or ineffective to test the validity of the detention. E.g., Winston v. Mustain, 562 F.2d 565, 566 (8th Cir. 1977); United States v. Lurie, 207 F.3d 1075, 1077 (8th Cir. 2000). A petitioner has the burden, moreover, of showing that the "inadequate or ineffective" test has been met. Von Ludwitz v. Ralston, 716 F.2d 528, 529 (8th Cir. 1983) (per curiam). Regardless of petitioner's assertions in this case, he has failed to show that § 2255 is an inadequate remedy. This action is

improperly filed under the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 2241. The issues he raises are cognizable, if at all, in the sentencing court, the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia. It is clear that this Court lacks jurisdiction of petitioner's claims. Accordingly, it must be recommended that the petition be dismissed without prejudice.

For the foregoing reasons, it is, pursuant to the governing law and in accordance with Local Rule 72.1 of the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri,

RECOMMENDED that petitioner be denied leave to proceed in forma pauperis, and that the petition herein for writ of habeas corpus be dismissed without prejudice.¹

/s/ James C. England
JAMES C. ENGLAND
United States Magistrate

Date: 10/5/11

¹Petitioner has 14 days to file exceptions to the Report and Recommendation of the United States Magistrate Judge.